SCENES AT THE CIRCUS

A Very Successful Opening of the Season by Adam Forepaugh.

To the martial strains of "William Tell" a military band ushered in the glittering pageant with which Forepaugh's Circus opened yesterday afternoon. The English thoroughbred horses pranced under the feminine hands of pretty riders, turbaned Orientals rocked upon "ships of the desert" and peering from gaily-curtained howdahs on the backs of elephants looked faces from the Nile and Ganges. More than three thousand people occupied seats in the great tent and volleys of applause showed appreciation of the spectacle. As the familiar features of the veteran showman appeared upon the track he was recognized first by the boys, who cheered him with a will. The opening performance of the show was unusually successful and was not marred by any mishap.

In quick succession the features of the programme, three at a time, came on, keeping the audience in a constant surprise. The entirely new features of the present season are Little Sandy, the famous London clown, who made his first bow to an American audience yesterday, accompanied by two very comical trick donkeys; William Rolland's troupe of English performing hounds; Mademoiselle Kabowls, the "Marvel of Moscow," and the boxing elephant "Sullivan," who sparred four rounds with his trainer. The extraordinary juggling of the Japanese, Houssabura Sam and the great Shattuck; Signor Maura, with the dancing barrel, and the performing dogs opened the performance, after which Adam Forepaugh, Jr.'s educated stallions and a group of pretty ponies delighted the audience. Two equestriennes, Mlle. Lizzie Rolland and Mlle. Emie Coleman, performed some daring feats, Mlle. Coleman dancing a hornpipe on the bare back of a trotting horse, the first time, it was said, the feat had been performed in America. Miss Maud Oswald, otherwise "the Human Fly," made people dizzy with acts of mid-air tumbling; the Majiltons performed contortion acts of the latest invention, and the three brothers La Martine, in evening dress, did wonderful acrobatic feats.

Many new acts showed that the younger Forepaugh's herd of elephants have not been idle during their winter's rest. The intelligent beasts executed the company drill correctly and at the finish fired a volley of musketry. With the trick elephant, Pickaninny, in one ring, with Billy Evans, the clown, and Sullivan, the sparring pachyderm, in the other circle, with his trainer, Eph Thompson, the great tent was kept in a continued uproar of laughter. After riding a bicycle Sullivan submitted to the putting on of his boxing-glove and shook hands with his trainer. Then the fight began. A couple of policemen, who stood on the outskirts of the ring, were yelled at by persons in the audience who wished to know if the sparring was to be "for points only." At the end of each round the bottle-holders would rush up and vigorously fan the funny little elephant, who gravely sat on a big stool, like a veteran of the prize-ring. In four rounds he "knocked out" his trainer, and, after shaking hands in token of having no malice, he ambled to his quarters.

Everybody cheered when the hippodrome races were announced and the real sport of the day began. The English and Kentucky thoroughbred horses ran splendidly, the charioteers aroused more enthusiasm and the audience grew excited and young ladies made wild bets of confectionery and gloves with their escorts as the ladies' steeplechase was run. In the menagerie the crowds pushed after the performance closed and the old act of tossing ginger-bread and peanuts to the elephants was gone through.